

**From:** Tony Biz  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 1/28/02 1:11pm  
**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement

To whom it may concern,

I am an independent software developer. I develop software products based on the Microsoft platform. Microsoft's operating systems, web browser, and other products have become defacto standards in the computer industry. This allows us to target our products to one platform and reach a broad customer base, instead of having to develop duplicate solutions for many competing platforms. This reduced software cost and allows us provide additional features which are a great benefit to our customers.

I am outraged at the unjust prosecution of Microsoft. The complaint against Microsoft originated not with individual consumers, or with Microsoft's partners, but with Microsoft's unsuccessful competitors. Failed businesses must not be allowed to set the rules for the markets in which they failed.

Microsoft is being punished, not because it did something evil, but because it was too good, too successful, produced too much value for its customers. This is a disgraceful inversion of the principal of justice. A successful business and its products are no threat to anyone.

The government is punishing Microsoft for producing better products at cheaper prices than its competitors. Instead of being persecuted for this, they should be congratulated, thanked, and honored. The only people who do not like this are Microsoft's envious unsuccessful competitors, who are not able to produce products as good and as useful as Microsoft.

This action against Microsoft is impeding progress in the high tech industry. Instead of focusing on producing the best products for the cheapest prices for consumers, Microsoft must use their resources to defend themselves and avoid destruction at the hands of our own government. In addition, software developers must waste effort developing duplicate solutions because of the uncertainty associated with this unjust action against Microsoft. Will the government, at a whim, decide that Microsoft does not have a right to exist? Will the government arbitrarily decide to stop Microsoft from adding features to its products, or discontinue products certain products? Unknown.

It is disgraceful that at a time when terrorists are trying to destroy our country from the outside that our own government is attempting to destroy our country from the inside but attacking and persecuting one of our greatest and most productive companies.

Microsoft has a fundamental right to exist and control its own property. Our government's job is to protect these rights, not to take them away!

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